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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Thro, et al.
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Certificate of Mailing
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on <i>January 31, 2001</i> Date
<i>Patrice Smith</i> Patrice Smith

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

BOX:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 et seq., the following references are disclosed which may be material to the examination of this application. A Form PTO-1449 is enclosed which lists the enclosed references.

No inference should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation of the prior art; that any or all are pertinent to the invention; that the apparatus therein is analogous to the invention; or that any apparatus disclosed is the equivalent of the subject invention.

XX No additional fee is required. This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b) prior to one of the following events, whichever occurred last, including: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application, (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application, or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits.

_____ This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(c) after one of the following events, whichever occurred last, including: (1) within three months of the filing date of a national application, (2) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application, or (3) before the mailing date of the first Office action on the merits, but prior to the mailing date of either (1) a final action, or (2) a notice of allowance.

_____ No fee is required, because a certification under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) is attached.

_____ A fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) of \$220.00 is required, because no certification under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) has been made.

_____ This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) after one of the following events, whichever occurred first, the mailing date of either (1) a final action, or (2) a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. In addition, a certification under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) and a petition requesting consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement is attached. A fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(i)(1) of \$130.00 is required for the petition.

_____ Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0280 in the amount of \$_____.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 50-0280.

Respectfully submitted,
Thro, et al.

Please send correspondence to:

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